

new interpretation. In all other portions of the city built-upon the usual channels.

Signed by the Relief Committee, Board of Trade.

WILLIAM T. ROLFE, Chairman.

A CROWDED HALL DESTROYED

HUNDREDS OF MEN, WOMEN AND CHILDREN CAUGHT IN THE RUINS.

STRENGTH WITH PANIC, BUT UNABLE TO ESCAPE

—SLOW WORK OF RESCUE—FLAMES

IN THE WRECK.

Louisville, March 28.—Probably the greatest loss of life occurred at the Falls City Hall, which was the center of the tornado. In the lower rooms of the hall were fifty or seventy-five children, with their mothers and other relatives, taking dancing lessons. There were at least 125 persons on the lower floors and seventy-five more attending a lodge meeting on the upper floor when the wind struck the building. The entire structure in less than five minutes was a shapeless mass of brick and mortar, burying 200 helpless victims, of whom few escaped uninjured.

Immediately upon the destruction of the storm, the fire-bells sounded and the police were called. Within ten minutes a posse appeared at the Falls City Hall. The walls of the adjoining house were first propped up, and then began the work of cutting through the heavy slate roof that covered the ruined hall. At first work was difficult and laborious, on account of the anxious multitude that crowded near the wreck. It was a heartbreaking task to clear the ruin of women who were found digging at the slate with their fingers, crazed at the groans beneath, each of which they thought came from their dying ones.

Every one did noble work. After an hour of ceaseless labor the first victim, Mrs. Sarah Kelley, was rescued. She was found sitting in an upright position, her head bruised and one arm broken. She said:

"At the first quake a mad rush was made for the entrance. Women were knocked down and trampled on in the mad haste to escape. Seeing the overwhelming jam at the door, several remained behind. The last I saw of my friends was just before the floor gave way and the ceiling fell."

The work was continued, but none of those who, Mrs. Kelley said, were near her could be rescued. The work of excavation was then transferred from the rear of the building to the front, where it was supposed that the greater crowd was gathered.

As soon as the roof was removed and the mass of brick beneath, the sight that met the eyes was sad enough. Ten women, locked in each other's arms, were drawn out. James Hasson, whose wife had been at the lodge meeting, was foremost in the work, and the first person whom he drew out of the ruined building was his wife, who died in his arms. He laid her by the side of the others who were dead and continued to work for the living.

In the next hour thirty men and women were drawn out dead, but with no wounds on their bodies, and it is thought all met their death from suffocation. The gas-pipes had broken, causing the lights to go out and saving the runs from fire for the time. Ways were pierced into the breast of the ruin to reach the dead and dying. One part of the building was reserved for the dead, but the wounded were taken into the stores and houses on the opposite side of the street.

At 12 o'clock the opening up of a portion of the wreck caused a draught to penetrate the ruins, whereupon the smoldering fire broke out fiercely. It spread rapidly and forced the workers to desert the pile. As soon as the fire gained headway the groans of the imprisoned people became shrieks, and so great was the horror of the moment that the watchers became frantic and screamed and ran about like madmen, the terrible sufferings which they were unable to alleviate driving them to despair. Several lines of hose were soon throwing water upon the flames, but it was more than an hour before work could be proceeded with and then it was carried on with much difficulty on account of the heat.

Up to noon only about thirty-five dead bodies and twenty-five wounded and dying were taken from the wreck. The corpses were laid in the various houses across the street, and in Dougherty & Kennan's undertaking establishment, one block below. At the latter place people passed in and out, one by one, to look at the bodies, hunting for friends and relatives. One man said he was looking for Louis Lipp, and the first sheet lifted revealed the corpse of the person wanted. The man covered his face, groaned, and would have fallen had he not been caught.

At about 11:30 a. m. the room where the children were dancing was reached. Louis Simms, jr., of No. 1,124 Market-st., had for several days been moving about in an agony of grief in front of that portion of the wreck where this room had been, for his wife and four little children were there. When the room was reached, Mrs. Simms was the first one found, and she was fatally hurt. Then, within about fifteen minutes of each other, three of the Simms children were recovered. They were unconscious, and there is only a faint possibility of their living. While the father was imploring the workers to get his other child, fire broke out and work was suspended. The last man taken out alive before the flames started was John Heppen, of No. 2,100 West Broadway, and just previous to that time a woman was rescued, who was unable to give her name when recovered. It was not possible to tell the extent of the injuries of either.

A thrilling experience was that of George H. Capito, of No. 1,431 Stewart-ave., who was present at the meeting of Jewell Lodge, No. 2, Knights and Ladies of Honor, in their lodgeroom on the top floor of the hall, when the building collapsed under the terrible impact of the storm. He says:

"The first intimations of danger we had were two distinct rockings of the buildings, about which time a dormer window in the lodgeroom was blown from its casings, and immediately after the plastering began to drop from the ceiling. A wild rush was made for the anteroom, which carried me with it, and I had just reached the door when the entire floor gave way, and we were precipitated to the basement, blinded and almost suffocated by a cloud of dust and crushed and jammed by falling timbers. In some way the door frame fell with me, and maintained an upright position when it stopped, and I was enabled to extricate myself from the wreck and make my way to the street through an adjoining house, whose doors I kicked in. Meanwhile the shrieks

and groans of those still imprisoned by the wreck formed a chorus that, in connection with the howling of the storm, made me heart sick. I was, so far as hasty examination went, comparatively uninjured, and at once returned over the ruins with several men to the rear of the place and extinguished a fire that had begun to blaze. By this time the rain was falling in torrents, and it was difficult for those who had gathered from the neighborhood, or who had been as lucky as I was, to escape with life, to tell where to begin the work of rescue.

"The wild lightning flashes only gave momentary views of the position of the ruins, and blinded everybody. Among those whom I saw and recognized as having escaped from Jewell Lodge, I can name only one, Mrs. Lizzie Walters, the treasurer of the lodge, who was covered with dust, drenched by the storm, and well-nigh distracted by the probable fate of her aged father, who had attended the lodge meeting with her and was still in the ruins.

"The entire building collapsed in front and rear, and of the east and west side walls nothing was standing above the second story. There were nearly a hundred men present at the lodge meeting, as several candidates were up for initiation. Fully two-thirds of those there were ladies. Besides our lodge, another order was holding a meeting on the same floor of the hall. German band volunteers were at work in the large hall on that floor, preparing for some entertainment. So far as I could judge, there were not more than a dozen or so of the men, and the cries for help and groans that issued from the broken and twisted wreck were proof that scores were still there unable to escape.

"The work of rescuing the wounded and recovering the bodies of the dead was pushed with tireless energy. A hundred anxious men worked at the ruins, and the bodies of the victims, as they never worked before, were recovered. The bodies of the women, mothers, sisters, that they buried in the shapeless mass of brick and mortar. A surging crowd of 10,000 people blocked the streets for blocks about the scene of the catastrophe.

A large force of police guarded the avenue to keep back the pressing masses of curious onlookers who gradually forced their way to the scene of the calamity. The bodies of the victims were recovered and placed in the street, and the work of recovering the bodies of the dead was pushed with tireless energy. A hundred anxious men worked at the ruins, and the bodies of the victims, as they never worked before, were recovered. The bodies of the women, mothers, sisters, that they buried in the shapeless mass of brick and mortar. A surging crowd of 10,000 people blocked the streets for blocks about the scene of the catastrophe.

At 8 o'clock this morning, while Coroner Miller was standing over a corpse in his improvised morgue, a man, pale as death and voiceless from excitement, rushed in and hoarsely whispered:

"Miller, your brother is buried in the ruins!"

The coroner was nearly paralyzed by the terrible news. He hurried to the scene, and the bodies of the victims were recovered and placed in the street, and the work of recovering the bodies of the dead was pushed with tireless energy. A hundred anxious men worked at the ruins, and the bodies of the victims, as they never worked before, were recovered. The bodies of the women, mothers, sisters, that they buried in the shapeless mass of brick and mortar. A surging crowd of 10,000 people blocked the streets for blocks about the scene of the catastrophe.

At the corner of Fourth and Market sts. at 8:30 a. m., or just about that time, officers maintained, however, that no one had gone into the building a minute before it fell.

DETAILS OF DESTRUCTION.

VIEWING THE FIELD SWEEP BY THE WIND.

A LIST OF THE NUMBERED SHOWS HOW COMPLETELY THE GALE DID ITS WORK.

Louisville, March 28.—Along Main-st., the pathway of the storm extended from Sixth to Eleventh sts. and from Eleventh to Eleventh sts. not a single building was left standing. Here and there a massive structure front still stood intact, while the rear of the building was blown away. The course of the storm was from the west, and the bodies of the victims were recovered and placed in the street, and the work of recovering the bodies of the dead was pushed with tireless energy. A hundred anxious men worked at the ruins, and the bodies of the victims, as they never worked before, were recovered. The bodies of the women, mothers, sisters, that they buried in the shapeless mass of brick and mortar. A surging crowd of 10,000 people blocked the streets for blocks about the scene of the catastrophe.

Eleventh-st. seemed to serve as a kind of line for the storm, as all intervening objects in that line are practically reduced to fragments. As it rushed down this street it carried with it the fronts of the buildings, which are mostly houses on the north side, leaving in many instances the frame of the building exposed. The storm struck the front of the building, and the bodies of the victims were recovered and placed in the street, and the work of recovering the bodies of the dead was pushed with tireless energy. A hundred anxious men worked at the ruins, and the bodies of the victims, as they never worked before, were recovered. The bodies of the women, mothers, sisters, that they buried in the shapeless mass of brick and mortar. A surging crowd of 10,000 people blocked the streets for blocks about the scene of the catastrophe.

Jefferson and Market sts. are in almost as bad a condition as Main-st., and hundreds of wagons are busy carting away soiled and broken furniture from ruined homes. The massive trees in the park in Jefferson-st. have been twisted and broken like reeds and lie crossed and piled up on each other.

The Carpenter Annex, Iron Works, in Eighth-st., a four-story building, No. 745 Main-st., occupied by the law establishment of J. T. Brown & Sons, on the corner of Eighth and Main sts., had lost instantly the front of the building, and the bodies of the victims were recovered and placed in the street, and the work of recovering the bodies of the dead was pushed with tireless energy. A hundred anxious men worked at the ruins, and the bodies of the victims, as they never worked before, were recovered. The bodies of the women, mothers, sisters, that they buried in the shapeless mass of brick and mortar. A surging crowd of 10,000 people blocked the streets for blocks about the scene of the catastrophe.

The buildings adjacent to it were considerably torn up, and it is positive that several dead bodies were buried in the ruins. The great building, No. 745 Main-st., occupied by the law establishment of J. T. Brown & Sons, on the corner of Eighth and Main sts., had lost instantly the front of the building, and the bodies of the victims were recovered and placed in the street, and the work of recovering the bodies of the dead was pushed with tireless energy. A hundred anxious men worked at the ruins, and the bodies of the victims, as they never worked before, were recovered. The bodies of the women, mothers, sisters, that they buried in the shapeless mass of brick and mortar. A surging crowd of 10,000 people blocked the streets for blocks about the scene of the catastrophe.

The following is nearly a complete list of the wrecked buildings:

No. 904 Market-st., the roof and upper story are off; J. M. Grogan, proprietor.

No. 905 Market-st., A. W. Eben, shoes, was badly damaged in the rear, but no person was hurt.

No. 910, adjoining Wile Bros., meat dealers, suffered a bad loss on the building, but the family escaped injury.

No. 911, the third floor was crushed in and the tobacco factory of Krenelberg & Co. was ruined.

No. 922, E. Hirsch, dry goods, roof off.

No. 924, A. Simons, roof off and rear down.

The Pope Favors Convalescents from the Influenza with exemption from Lenten rules (1890).

Ayer's Sarsaparilla Restores Strength and Vigor.

Take it now.

Prepared by Dr. J. C. Ayer & Co., Lowell, Mass.

No. 930 was crushed in.

No. 932, A. J. Glover, and 931, the W. B. Trumbo Company, furniture house, were demolished to the first floor.

No. 936 was badly damaged.

No. 940, and 944, three new buildings; the walls were blown down.

No. 948 and 950, both demolished.

No. 950, southeast corner Tenth and Market, rear of house blown in.

No. 1,000, the Market-st. building, was totally wrecked.

No. 1,002, the building, was ruined, and all down in the rear.

No. 1,004, 1,006, 1,008, 1,010, and 1,012, all wrecked.

No. 1,018 was demolished in the rear.

No. 1,024 was demolished above the first floor and in the rear.

No. 1,028, the upper part of the house was ruined.

No. 1,030, the structure was ruined.

No. 1,022, the rear and middle of the building crushed.

No. 1,034, the rear is down and the house ruined above the first floor.

No. 1,038, the rear of the establishment was demolished.

No. 1,040 and 1,042, the house was entirely blown in in the rear.

No. 1,044, the rear and a big warehouse adjoining were razed to the ground.

No. 1,100, the building was wrecked.

No. 1,102, the building is entirely down in the rear.

No. 1,104, the building was wrecked; the occupants were rescued by ladders after the front wall had been blown out.

No. 1,106, the building was completely wrecked in the rear and above the first floor.

No. 1,108, the establishment extended back through Nos. 408 and 410 Eleventh-st. The whole place is in ruins.

No. 1,109 to 1,108, all these buildings are nearly a complete ruin.

No. 1,110, the upper part was demolished.

No. 1,112, the building was ruined.

No. 1,114, the building was badly wrecked.

No. 1,116, the building was wrecked in the rear.

No. 1,118, the building was blown down in the rear.

No. 1,120, the place is completely ruined.

No. 1,122, the building was smashed to fragments.

No. 1,124, 1,126 and 1,130, Falls City Hall and P. J. Schoon and Sons, a total wreck, with great loss of life.

No. 1,132, the building was wrecked.

No. 1,134, the building was wrecked in the rear.

No. 1,136, the building was badly damaged in the rear and side.

No. 412 Eleventh-st., rear demolished.

No. 414 and 416 escaped with slight damage.

No. 418 was completely ruined.

No. 434 was smashed to splinters by the falling of No. 436.

No. 436 was a three-story brick, and the top story was blown off.

No. 438 was a three-story brick, and the top story was blown off.

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THE STORM-SWEEP DISTRICT.

SITUATION OF THE RUINED PART OF THE CITY.

WAREHOUSES AND FACTORIES IN THE PATH OF THE TORNADO—TOBACCO MEN SUFFER SEVERELY.

Louisville is the commercial capital and largest city of Kentucky. It is situated on a plateau about seventy feet above the Ohio River and at the head of the rapids known as the Ohio Falls. The business part of the city is chiefly confined to five streets running parallel with the river. South of these streets are laid out dwellings are to be found. The streets are laid out at right angles, running east and south and east and west. Beginning about the middle of the city the streets are numbered from one upward to the westward. To the eastward of First-st. the streets are named, as are also those running east and west, or parallel to the river. Walnut-st., the first of the streets almost entirely given up to dwelling houses, has its best residences between Sixth-st. and Brook-st., the first street east of First. From Walnut-st. southward the lines incline, the best residences extend the whole way to the river. The most expensive houses are to be found on Broadway and Fourth-ave., streets which have been noted for their fine private grounds since the city was laid out. West of Tenth-st., with here and there an exception, most of the dwelling-houses are cottages belonging to mechanics or clerks. The same is true of the city east of Jackson-st., the third street east of First. From Main-st. southward the city lies on a level plain, except in the extreme eastern and southern parts, where the land is rolling and at times hilly. Except in the business part of the city, few buildings are built close together, and many have large and well-kept yards.

According to the last accounts the storm moved away the buildings on a plot about five blocks wide—ten blocks are counted to the mile in Louisville—extending from Eighteenth-st. in the extreme west, western part of the city, to the Ohio River, at Seventh-st., something more than a mile in distance. When the storm struck Chestnut-st. it came upon many houses of considerable size, as it also did in Walnut-st. The houses upon these streets within the path of the storm were mostly old landmarks and the houses of people bearing names prominent in the city of Louisville. On all the other streets within the track of the storm the houses were those of the humbler classes. Green-st., never a prominent residence street, comes next to Walnut. In the next street, Jefferson, were some dwellings of wealthy people and a few churches, but the next street, Market, is given up almost entirely to retail stores, over which are apartments. In Market-st. are also a few factories. The next thoroughfare to the north is Main-st., the chief business street of the city. Between Ninth and Fourteenth sts., on both sides of the street, were twelve or fifteen large tobacco warehouses, which seem to have suffered severely. To the east of the city, near the Ohio River, are many large wholesale business houses. There are some big dry-goods houses, including Bamberger, Bloom & Co., perhaps the largest house in that line of business in the South; J. M. Robinson & Co., Carter Brothers & Co., the big wholesale drug stores of Arthur Peter & Co. and R. A. Robinson & Co., and the wholesale grocery stores of W. E. Grinstead & Co., Johnson Brothers & Co., Moore, Brenaker & Co. and H. G. Armstrong.

The old passenger stations of the Ohio and Mississippi and Jeffersonville, Madison and Indianapolis railroads, are at Main and Fourteenth sts. The Louisville and Nashville Railroad Company has large freight and passenger stations and locomotive repair shops and other buildings just south of Broadway, in the neighborhood of Tenth-st. and in or near the storm's course. The big Union Station above Seventh-st., and near the bank of the river, which was so badly damaged, was erected only a few years ago, and was used by the Chesapeake and Ohio, the Louisville Southern and nearly all the lines which enter the city, except the Kentucky and Nashville. The Louisville Hotel, just west of Sixth-st., in Main, is one of the handsomest in the South. Near the river and just south of the Union Station was Bridgeford & Co.'s large store foundry. In Fourteenth-st., through which ran a line of railroad tracks, were also several large factories, including those of the Kentucky Flouring Company, manufacturers of crackers, and the Sneed & Bibb Iron Works. On the river front in the devastated district were the Dennis Long Pipe Works, the Jeffersonville, Madison and Indianapolis Railroad Company's freight sheds and other big establishments. Scattered in various parts of the section over which the storm passed were one or two distilleries, several taverns, a brewery, Sneed & Co.'s Architectural Iron Works, the Todd Donigan Iron Company, the Hart Hardware Company, a wire net factory, the big new buildings of the Louisville Flouring Company, and many other large and small establishments. The loss, therefore, must be enormous.

The storm struck the city just west of the real business centre of the city and of the finest residences. Only one bank, if any, was struck by it, most of the stores of the city escaped, except the big tobacco warehouses. The largest retail dry-goods stores are in Fourth-ave., and in the southern and western parts of the city, in Jefferson, Broadway, Kentucky, Kentucky, Kentucky, Catherine, Brook, First, Second, Third, Fourth, Fifth and Sixth sts., are the handsomest dwellings and churches.

The industry which undoubtedly suffered most severely was the tobacco trade, all the warehouses being ruined. Louisville does the largest business in the world in leaf tobacco, and considerable quantities of tobacco are also made there. The majority of the warehouses are owned by the Kentucky Tobacco Company, which sends its tobacco to Louisville, where it is stored in the big warehouses until sold. The warehouses are three, four and five stories in height. About two years ago a number of the warehouses were burned down, and the tobacco was lost. The warehouses have been rebuilt, and they have all put up handsome and substantial buildings. Among the finest warehouses were the Phelps, the Falls City and the Farmers.

There still remained, however, some of the old structures.

Louisville had in 1880 nearly 124,000 inhabitants. It is the chief city of Kentucky and is noted for its beautiful streets and handsome houses and grounds. It was settled in 1775, and is the seat of the Missouri, Kentucky and Tennessee rivers. It is the seat of several of the best medical institutions, the Public Library of Kentucky and of a college supported by the Southern Baptists. It is the largest city of Kentucky, and the Falls City and the Farmers.

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The industry which undoubtedly suffered most severely was the tobacco trade, all the warehouses being ruined. Louisville does the largest business in the world in leaf tobacco, and considerable quantities of tobacco are also made there. The majority of the warehouses are owned by the Kentucky Tobacco Company, which sends its tobacco to Louisville, where it is stored in the big warehouses until sold. The warehouses are three, four and five stories in height. About two years ago a number of the warehouses were burned down, and the tobacco was lost. The warehouses have been rebuilt, and they have all put up handsome and substantial buildings. Among the finest warehouses were the Phelps, the Falls City and the Farmers.

There still remained, however, some of the old structures.

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